

November 23, 1964

**MINE INSPECTION REPORT  
JACKPILE AND PAGUATE MINES  
UNITED PUEBLO AGENCY  
LAGUNA PUEBLO RESERVATION  
VALENCIA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO**

**LAGUNA PUEBLO  
LEASES**

by  
**James W. Hager  
Mining Engineer**

Confidential Claim Retracted

Authorized by: SC

Date: 6/20/13

**U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
BRANCH OF MINING OPERATIONS  
CONSERVATION DIVISION**

On November 10, 1964 the Jackpile and Paguate mines were examined. The mines are located about 8.5 miles north of the Laguna Pueblo on U.S. Highway 66. The mines are operated by the Anaconda Company. The last inspection of the mines by engineers of this office was on August 11, 1964.

Since date of last inspection operations at the mines have gradually decreased to coincide with the reduction in ore needs at the Bluewater concentrator to supply the reduced demand by the Atomic Energy Commission.

At the Jackpile Mine mining continued in the bottom of the pit. A tractor equipped with a ripper loosened the ore and bladed it into piles where a 3/4-yard shovel loaded the ore into trucks. The stock-piles in the Jackpile pit were being depleted but still more than a year's supply remained.

At the Paguate pit stripping had virtually stopped. The stock-piles had 537,000 tons of ore with a grade between 0.25 and 0.35 percent  $U_3O_8$ . Mining in the pit was following the Jackpile method. A D-9 Caterpillar tractor equipped with ripper teeth and blade was used for mining. A 3/4-yard shovel loaded the ore into trucks. The ore occurs in lenses and this type selective mining has proven most satisfactory.

The management expressed relief that blasting large over burden rounds was at an end. The company has accepted responsibility for damage that might occur to structures in the village of Paguate. So far



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about \$10,000 damages have been paid for alleged structural damage to buildings in the village. The company has maintained seismic stations in and near the village and have recorded very little shock near the buildings. The pits are 2700 feet from its farthest west bench to the nearest building of the village.

There were 60 hourly employees and six supervisors employed at the mines. The mines operate 5 days a week, one shift per day.

No safety violations or violations of the lease terms were noted during the examination.

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Orig. to: Supt, United Pueblo, Albuquerque  
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